

eCademy Charter



STUDENT
HANDBOOK

2026-2027

TURLOCK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Each school district in the State of California is governed by a local Board of Trustees, which is elected by the voters who live in that District. The Board of Trustees, within the framework of the California Education Code, establishes the policies for that district and appoints a superintendent to carry out these policies.

Turlock Unified School District is geographically composed of the Chatom and Keyes School Districts, and the Elementary, Junior and High Schools of the Turlock Unified School District. The District operates nine elementary schools, one junior high and one middle school, two comprehensive high schools, and one continuation high school, eCademy Charter (grades K-12) and Turlock Adult School. Funds for the district are derived from local property taxes and allotments from the State of California.

Turlock Unified School District

Board of Trustees

Anthony Silva, President

Anna Ramirez, Clerk

Lori Carlson, Member

Patti Eighmey, Member

Mary Jackson, Member

Debbie Martinez, Member

Patrick Shields, Member

District Administration

David Lattig, Superintendent

Marjorie Bettencourt, Assistant Superintendent/Finance and Accountability

Joseph Silveira, Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources

Angela Freeman, Assistant Superintendent/ Educational Services

Lutresa "Trish" Anderson, Assistant Superintendent/Business Services

Gil Ogden, Director of Student Services

Alice Solis, Director of English Learners, Assessment and Special Programs

Erica Tchantz, Director of Special Education

John Acha, Director of Secondary Education

Marie Russell, Director of Communications, Family Engagement, and Outreach

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Dolores Flores, Director of Transportation

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Jennifer Lew-Vang, Director of Child Nutrition

Leslie Swisher, Director of Facilities Planning & Safety

Morgan Dossetti, Director of Maintenance-Operations

July 1, 2026

Table of Contents

TUSD Character Traits	1
TUSD Vision	2
TUSD Beliefs.....	2
TUSD Mission	2
eCademy Charter Staff.....	2
School Calendar 2026-2027	3
Student Holidays.....	3
Welcome.....	4
eCademy Charter	5
eCademy Mission Statement.....	5
Vision	5
Schoolwide Learner Goals	5
WASC Action Plan	5
LCAP Goals.....	5
Primary (TK-6) Program Overview	6
Secondary (7-12) Program Overview.....	6
Recommended Program Options for Students	6
Returning to a Traditional School Site	6
Enrollment Process	7
School Map.....	7
Bell Schedule K-6	8
Science Labs K-6	8
Bell Schedule 7-12.....	9
Student Responsibilities and Expectations	9
PBIS Protocols.....	10
Grading Policy K-6	14
Grading Policy 7-12	14
Junior High School Promotion Requirements	15
High School Graduation Requirements.....	15
College/University Entrance Requirements.....	17
Parent Engagement & Monitoring Student Progress	17
Internet, Chromebook, and Cell Phone Policies	18
Additional Programs and Services	19
Awards and Recognition	20
Child Nutrition.....	21
Rights of Students	21
Conduct Code and Attendance	22
Discipline Matrix	23
Sexual Harassment Policy.....	27

Additional information on the items listed above can be found under separate cover in the District Parent Notifications of Student Rights such as, interpreter/translation services, enrollment, attendance, school attire, student discipline, free and reduced lunch, health/physical examinations, high school curriculum, technology/communications, release of directory information, school information/calendar, school facilities, sex education instruction, student education placement, student records, teacher qualifications/information, career/technical education, college admissions requirements/career technical education-community-wide disaster, bus regulations, program options/interventions, uniform complaint procedures, sexual harassment, district homework guidelines TK-6, student conduct codes, open campus, Section 504, civil rights, parent/guardian TUSD contact information, notice of alternative school.

CHARACTER TRAITS

TURLOCK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



KINDNESS

Kindness is acting with understanding, generosity, and care.



PERSEVERANCE

Perseverance is what happens when you keep trying, even when challenged.



RESPECT

Respect sees the good in people and things & treating them with care.



HONESTY

Honesty is being truthful in what we say and do.



RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility is taking action and understanding the impact of our choices.



COOPERATION

Cooperation is working together to reach shared goals.



GRATITUDE

Gratitude is choosing to appreciate the people and things in our lives.



COURAGE

Courage is choosing what is helpful, right, and kind, even in the face of adversity.



EMPATHY

Empathy is one way we can show Kindness; understanding and connecting to other people's feelings.



CREATIVITY

Creativity is using your imagination to create something new or solve a problem.

Character is Our Strength

Rev. 7/1/2026



Turlock Unified School District

**TURLOCK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2026-2027**

TUSD Vision

All students will become self-motivated, responsible citizens who graduate college and career ready.

TUSD Beliefs

We believe that:

- Every person is unique and has inherent value.
- Every person can be a successful learner.
- People are accountable for their actions.
- Family engagement is essential to the academic and social-emotional success of students.
- Honesty, integrity, and respect build trust in all relationships.
- Motivation, grit, and mindfulness are necessary to achieve full potential.
- High expectations yield greater levels of performance.
- A quality education enriches all lives by creating and expanding opportunities.
- Positive role models inspire excellence.
- A service mindset is vital to a thriving community.

TUSD Mission

Turlock Unified School District will deliver effective instruction in a safe, equitable, supportive environment in partnership with our families and diverse community.

eCADEMY CHARTER STAFF

OFFICE STAFF

Esmirna Imperial, Principal	eimperial@turlock.k12.ca.us
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Vacant, Secretary II	
Carmen Sanchez, School Counselor	csanchez@turlock.k12.ca.us
Gabriela Munguia, Student Support Clinician	gmunguia@turlock.k12.ca.us
Jose Zamora, Head Custodian	jzamora@turlock.k12.ca.us
Deidre Silva, Paraprofessional	dsilva@turlock.k12.ca.us
Nicole Azof, EL Paraprofessional	nazof@turlock.k12.ca.us

TEACHING STAFF

Ana Gomez de Santos, Art Teacher	agomezdesantos@turlock.k12.ca.us
Jeff Mathew, 7-12 Teacher	jmatthew@turlock.k12.ca.us
Jennifer Nagaran, 9-12 Teacher	jnagaran@turlock.k12.ca.us
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Rex Rabine, 7-12 Teacher	rrabine@turlock.k12.ca.us
Julie Thompson, 9-12 Teacher	jthompson@turlock.k12.ca.us
Amanda Weimer, K-6 Teacher	aweimer@turlock.k12.ca.us

 209-669-3410

 <https://ecademy.turlock.k12.ca.us>

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Turlock Unified School District

SCHOOL IN SESSION

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026-27



Holiday

SCHOOL VACATIONS & HOLIDAYS

Independence Day (observed)	July 3
Labor Day	Sept. 7
Veterans Day	Nov. 11
Thanksgiving	Nov. 23 - 27
Winter Break	Dec. 21 - Jan. 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Jan. 18
In Lieu Admission Day	Feb. 11
Lincoln Day	Feb. 12
Washington Day	Feb. 15
Spring Break	Mar. 26 - Apr. 2
Memorial Day	May 31
Juneteenth	June 18
<u>MINIMUM DAYS</u>	
First Day of School*	Aug. 12
TK-6 Parent Teacher Conf.	Nov. 16 - 20
Day before Veteran's Day	Nov. 10
Day Before Winter Break	Dec. 18
Last Day of School	May 28
<u>EARLY RELEASE DAYS</u>	
TK-12 Wednesdays	Every Wednesday
<u>K-8 TRIMESTERS</u>	
Trimester 1 (61 days)	Aug. 12 - Nov. 6
Trimester 2 (60 days)	Nov. 9 - Feb. 26
Trimester 3 (59 days)	Mar. 1 - May 28
<u>7-12 QUARTERS/SEMESTER DATES</u>	
Quarter 1 (43 days)	Oct. 9
Quarter 2 (43 days)/Semester 1 (85 days)	Dec. 18
Quarter 3 (46 days)	Mar. 12
Quarter 4 (49 days)/Semester 2 (95 days)	May 28

JULY 2026

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AUGUST 2026

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SEPTEMBER 2026

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JANUARY 2027

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APRIL 2027

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MAY 2027

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JUNE 2027

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Note: August 10, 11, and October 19 are teacher workdays per the TUSD and TTA collective bargaining agreement.

*The first day of School for TK and Kindergarten will remain as a regular day schedule (both a.m. and p.m. sessions)

Board Approved: January 21, 2025

STUDENT HOLIDAYS

September 7, 2026

Labor Day

October 19, 2026

Non School Day

November 11, 2026

Veteran's Day (observed)

November 23-27, 2026

Thanksgiving Break

December 21-2026-January 1, 2027

Winter Break

January 18, 2027

Martin Luther King Birthday

February 11, 2027

Lincoln's Birthday (observed)

February 12, 2027

In Lieu Admissions Day

February 15, 2027

Washington's Birthday

March 26-April 2, 2027

Spring Break



Turlock Unified School District

Welcome

Dear Families and Students,

eCademy Charter provides students with the opportunity to continue their education outside traditional comprehensive schools. We are a dependent charter school of the Turlock Unified School District (TUSD) and follow their school calendar, educational services plan, and all accountability measures, including meeting all district and state testing requirements. Our campus provides a unique environment, with a team of dedicated, caring staff to support our students.

eCademy offers distinct program options for K-12 students to accommodate alternative educational needs. Our K-6 Home School program provides the TUSD adopted curriculum to each student, and the student & parent meet with the teacher at least one day per week. Our grade 7-12 program is a traditional Independent Study (IS) via online courses through the Edgenuity Platform. The Edgenuity courses we offer are A-G college-prep, Honors, and Advanced Placement. In addition to strategic teacher support, a student may also utilize Tier II support and/or voluntarily report to our campus for additional intervention and tutoring in a supervised classroom setting called the SPACE. We also offer concurrent enrollment course options with the two comprehensive high school sites for TUSD students. These courses are granted based on seat availability and approval from the comprehensive sites.

The staff at eCademy are confident that every student can learn and be successful. Together, we will prepare students to be college and career ready. We do offer some evening family events on campus (e.g., Fall Family Night, Christmas Tree, Spring Fling), and we ask students and parents to attend to be part of our school community. It is imperative that we communicate with you about school events. Students and parents, please assure us that we have the correct phone numbers. Students, please check your school email for school information at least twice per week.

Please review the student handbook and use it as a resource throughout the year to answer any questions you may have about our school. You may visit our school website for additional information and contact our office at 209-669-3410 or email me at eimperial@turlock.k12.ca.us for further questions. I look forward to partnering with you and supporting your child's success. See you on campus!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Esmira Imperial".

Esmira Imperial
Principal

eCADEMY CHARTER

eCademy Charter is an Independent Study, WASC accredited alternative program. It offers traditional independent studies and online learning. eCademy Charter is dependent of TUSD and aligns with its educational philosophy and LCAP. eCademy Charter serves students within and outside the district. eCademy Charter's goal is to ensure a high school diploma is earned. Courses offered at eCademy follow the same protocols and follow similar curriculum as other TUSD schools. Teachers at eCademy are highly qualified and credentialed under California State Standards in each core subject. We operate a semester system for high school, a quarter system for junior high school, and a trimester system for K-6 Home School.

eCADEMY MISSION

Our mission at eCademy Charter is to support our students in becoming responsible life-long learners through flexible and individualized programs.

eCADEMY VISION

The vision of eCademy Charter is to graduate responsible citizens who are college and career ready.

SCHOOLWIDE LEARNER GOALS

CRANES: (see back page)

- Commit to assigned course work and attend school regularly.
- Respect self, others, and the educational process.
- Acquire critical thinking, technology, and communication skills.
- Network in and outside the community.
- Establish a strong work ethic and civility.
- Soar into the future college and career ready.

WASC ACTION PLAN GOALS:

1. Improve student academic performance by increasing the percentage of students scoring meets or exceeds standard on the English Language Arts and Math State Assessment (CAASPP)
2. Improve eCademy's climate and culture by implementing PBIS and school-wide activities to secure mental health resources, reduce suspensions, and increase student attendance.
3. Increase students "prepared" in the college/career indicator by 5%.
4. Create metrics to measure achievement of Schoolwide Learner Goals

LCAP GOALS

1. Academic Achievement: Improve student academic performance by utilizing a multitiered system of support (MTSS) to promote college and career readiness among all students.
2. School Climate and Social Emotional Learning: Improve school climate, culture, and student well-being with equitable practices for all students and staff.
3. Curriculum and Instruction: Provide guaranteed, viable learning from highly qualified teachers who use adopted materials and effective instructional practices to implement standards.
4. Parent Engagement: Expand opportunities to increase parent and family involvement.
5. Safety and Security: Uphold policies, procedures, and facilities that maintain a safe, secure environment.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Grades: K-6 Home School

1) Traditional book based IS Courses:

- Parent is the primary teacher for the student using TUSD standard curriculum and pacing calendar.
- Students work independently at home with parent support.
- The student and parent will attend their mandatory weekly assigned one hour teacher appointment, plus the student will attend the mandatory monthly assigned science lab time.

Grades: 7 - 12

1) Online IS Courses (e.g., College Prep, Honors, AP, etc.) via Edgenuity Program: (Select Courses also offered for Credit Recovery)

- English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Science, World Language, and Electives
- Students work independently at home and at minimum will attend their weekly assigned one hour teacher appointment time.

2) Concurrent Enrollment Courses:

- Based on availability
- TUSD Students may request to take a course at their resident comprehensive site.

RECOMMENDED PROGRAM OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS

Online, Traditional Independent Study Courses (via Edgenuity)

Edgenuity Program Requirements:

- Students will attend every scheduled appointment.
- Students will work for at least 5 hours per course per week.
- Students will complete all assignments for each day as noted in the Edgenuity Course Map.
- Students will keep careful and detailed notes as they progress through each lesson. They understand that notes are 15% of their grade (some exceptions apply.)
- Students will respect school rules, equipment, fellow students, and staff.
- Students will not plagiarize or cheat.
- Students will take advantage of the email support provided by their teacher outside of regular class time by communicating with them through their @turlock.k12.ca.us account.
- Students understand that all tests and the cumulative exam must be proctored by a teacher on campus.
- COURSE MUST BE 100% COMPLETED (INCLUDING THE CUMULATIVE EXAM) BY THE END OF THEIR LAST SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT. No coursework will be accepted after the cumulative exam.

RETURNING TO A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL SITE

Return to Home School Site

Prior to returning to your home school, it is recommended to meet with the principal to discuss the request. We do not recommend returning to the home school until the student has successfully completed the current quarter or entire semester. Refer to the Independent Study Written Agreement signed at the time the student enrolled.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

eCademy Charter (for students in TUSD)

- Student Parent/Guardian make an appointment to meet with Principal
- At principal meeting school expectations and Independent Study Agreement will be reviewed with parent/guardian.
- Do not drop from your home school until after meeting with the eCademy Principal.

Note: Grades 7-8 require referral form completed by home site counselor.

New Students in Grades 9-12 need to enroll in the Independent Study program at their comprehensive site. Please contact the school office on how to complete the enrollment process.

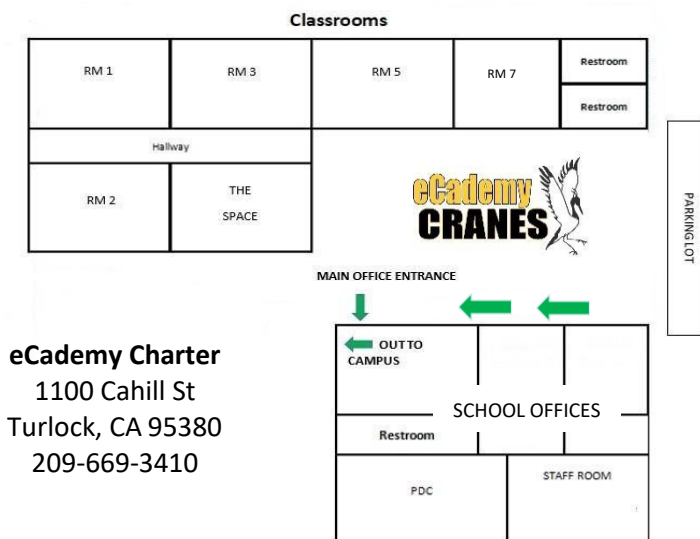
eCademy Charter (for students outside TUSD)

- Student/parent or guardian make appointments to meet eCademy Principal.
- Bring current records (transcript, current grades, attendance, discipline, etc.)
- At principal meeting school expectations and school contracts will be reviewed with parent/guardian/student.
- Do not drop from your home school until after meeting with the eCademy Principal.

Items needed for enrollment:

- Immunization Records (State Law)
- Birth Certificate
- Transcript (unofficial) and drop slip with current grades from last school attended.
- Most recent CAASPP Results, if applicable
- Most recent diagnostic test (e.g., iReady)
- Copy of most recent ELPAC scores (for English Language Learners), if applicable, to include date previously tested and name of school where testing took place.
- A parent, guardian, or educational rights holder must accompany student to the meeting.

SCHOOL MAP



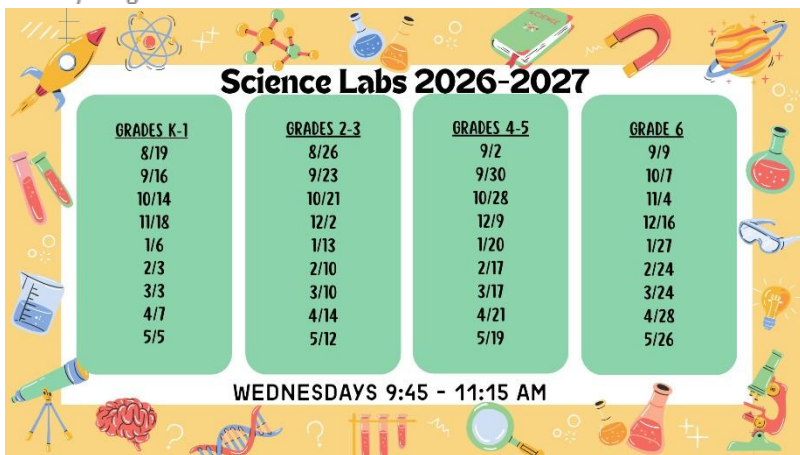
eCademy is an enclosed campus. Entrance and exit are through the school office.
All visitors must check-in for ID verification, a visitor badge, and to sign-in.

Period	Time
1	08:30 – 09:30
2	09:30 – 10:30
3	10:30 – 11:30
Lunch	11:30 – 12:15
4	12:15 – 01:15
5	01:15 – 02:15
SEL	2:15 – 2:35
Prep	02:35 – 03:15

Wednesday

Period	Time
1	08:30 – 09:30
Science Lab Time	09:30 – 11:30
Lunch	11:30 – 12:15
4	12:15 – 01:15
5	01:15 – 02:15
SEL	02:15 – 02:30
PLC	02:15 – 03:15

Note: The student and parent will attend their mandatory weekly assigned one hour teacher appointment time, plus the student will attend the mandatory monthly assigned science lab time.



Science Labs 2026-2027

<u>GRADES K-1</u>	<u>GRADES 2-3</u>	<u>GRADES 4-5</u>	<u>GRADE 6</u>
8/19	8/26	9/2	9/9
9/16	9/23	9/30	10/7
10/14	10/21	10/28	11/4
11/18	12/2	12/9	12/16
1/6	1/13	1/20	1/27
2/3	2/10	2/17	2/24
3/3	3/10	3/17	3/24
4/7	4/14	4/21	4/28
5/5	5/12	5/19	5/26

WEDNESDAYS 9:45 – 11:15 AM

Monday - Friday

Period	Time
1	08:30 – 09:30
2	09:30 – 10:30
3	10:30 – 11:30
Lunch	11:30 – 12:15
4	12:15 – 01:15
5	01:15 – 02:15
Prep	02:15 – 03:15

Wednesday

Period	Time
1	08:30 – 09:30
2	09:30 – 10:30
3	10:30 – 11:30
Lunch	11:30 – 12:15
4	12:15 – 01:15
Prep	01:15 – 02:15
PLC	02:15 – 03:15

Note: The student will attend their mandatory weekly assigned one hour teacher appointment time.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

“At eCademy we are Respectful, Responsible, and Safe.”

The Turlock Unified School District strives to provide students with optimal conditions for learning by maintaining a school environment where everyone is treated with respect, and no one is physically or emotionally harmed. To ensure respect and prevent harm, it is a violation of the Conduct Code for a student to be harassed, intimidated, or bullied by others in the school community, on the way to or from school, at school sponsored events, or when such actions create a substantial disruption to the educational process. Student(s) shall not be harassed basis of actual or perceived ancestry, age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, parental, pregnancy, family or marital status, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Any staff who observes, overhears, or otherwise witnesses harassment, intimidation, or bullying or to whom such actions have been reported must take prompt and appropriate action to stop the harassment and to prevent its reoccurrence which depending on the frequency, intensity and/or severity may require an immediate report to the school site administration.

PBIS PROTOCOLS

eCademy is dependent on TUSD and follows TUSD incentives such as PBIS.

Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

SCHOOL WIDE EXPECTATIONS

AREA	BE RESPECTFUL	BE RESPONSIBLE	BE SAFE
Office	-Enter quietly -Be patient -Follow staff direction	-Have appropriate documents and materials ready	-Open communication
Hallway	-Use quiet voices	-Clean up after yourself	-Walk Slowly
Bathrooms	-Honor others' privacy -Be courteous to property	-Clean up after yourself -Wash your hands	-Report any problems
Outdoor Facilities	-Keep volume at appropriate level	-Clean up after yourself -Stay on task	-Use as intended -Report questionable activities
Classrooms	-Follow staff directions -Use appropriate volume and language -Keep personal space	-Bring charged Chromebook -Bring all assigned work	-Use Chromebook appropriately -Internet Safety
SPACE/PDC	-Quiet voices -Work actively	-Silence cell phones -Sign in and sign out -Keep area clean	-Use furniture respectfully -Internet Safety

What Are PBIS and Restorative Practices?

PBIS is like a roadmap for good behavior. It teaches students how to act in school—whether in class, the cafeteria, or on the playground, using clear rules and positive rewards. We focus on praising students for doing the right thing, like being kind or responsible, to create a happy, safe school. Restorative Practices are about fixing problems and building strong relationships. Instead of just punishing mistakes, we talk about what happened, how it affected others, and how to make things right. This helps students learn from their actions and stay connected to our school community. Together, PBIS and Restorative Practices help us prevent problems, support every student, and keep our schools welcoming for all.

Our School-Wide Expectations

Every school in TUSD has 3–5 simple rules that everyone follows, like:

- Be Safe: Keep hands to yourself and follow safety rules.
- Be Respectful: Use kind words and listen to others.
- Be Responsible: Do your work and own your actions.

These rules are posted around school, taught in class, and practiced all year. Teachers give specific praise, like “Great job being respectful by waiting your turn!” to encourage students. In classrooms, teachers and students create rules together that match these school-wide expectations, so everyone knows how to succeed.

How We Support Students: Three Levels of Help

We use a three-level system to make sure every student gets the support they need. Think of it like a ladder—most students do well with basic support, but some need extra help to shine.

Level 1: For Everyone

- We teach and practice school rules, like how to line up quietly or share ideas in class.
- Teachers use fun activities, like role-playing, to show what “being respectful” looks like.
- Students earn praise, high-fives, or small rewards for following expectations.
- We track behavior using a tool called SWIS to spot patterns and keep things running smoothly.

Level 2: For Some Students

- If a student needs more help, they might join a program like Check-In/Check-Out, where they meet with a mentor daily to set goals and get feedback.
- Small groups teach skills like solving conflicts or staying calm.
- Families work with teachers to support students at home and at school.

Level 3: For a Few Students

- Students with bigger challenges get a personalized Restorative Action Plan (RAP) to help them succeed.
- We may involve counselors or community support to meet their needs.
- Restorative meetings help fix serious problems and rebuild trust.

This system ensures every student gets the right support to grow and thrive.

Handling Behavior: Our Step-by-Step Approach

When a student makes a mistake, we follow these steps to help them learn and make things right:

Spot the Behavior:

- Minor issues, like talking out of turn, are handled by teachers in class.
- Major issues, like fighting, go to the office for extra support.

Respond in Class (Minor Issues):

Teachers gently redirect students, saying things like, “Let’s try raising our hand.”

- A quick chat helps students understand their actions and how to improve.
- Teachers note these moments in SWIS to track progress and may call home if needed.

Get Extra Help (Major Issues):

- For bigger problems, teachers send a report to the office.
- An administrator may hold a Restorative Circle or Conference, where students, staff, and sometimes families talk about what happened and how to fix it.
- Students might write an apology, help with a school task, or create a Restorative Action Plan (RAP) to show they’re ready to make better choices.
- Parents are invited to join these talks to support their child.

Check In and Support:

Teachers and staff keep an eye on progress, praising students for positive changes.

- We use SWIS to see if our plans are working and adjust them if needed.
- Families get updates to stay in the loop.

Keep Improving:

- Schools review behavior data every few months to make our rules and support even better.
- Families can attend meetings to learn about our progress and share ideas.

Restorative Practices: Fixing Problems Together

When mistakes happen, we focus on learning and rebuilding relationships, not just punishment. Here’s how we do it:

- Restorative Chats: A teacher or principal talks one-on-one with a student, asking, “What happened? Who was affected? How can we make it right?”
- Restorative Circles: Students and staff sit in a circle to share feelings and solve problems together, like after a class argument.
- Restorative Conferences: For bigger issues, we bring together everyone involved to talk, plan repairs (like an apology or school service), and help the student feel welcome again.
- Restorative Action Plan (RAP): A student works with staff (and sometimes parents) to create a plan for taking responsibility and making positive changes.

These steps teach students to own their actions, respect others, and stay part of our school family.

How Families Can Help

You play a big role in our success! Here’s how you can support your child:

- Talk About Expectations: Review school and classroom rules with your child.
- Celebrate Good Choices: Praise your child for being safe, respectful, or responsible.
- Join In: If invited, participate in restorative meetings or circles to help your child grow.
- Stay Connected: Share concerns with teachers and attend PBIS parent nights to learn more.

Why This Matters

At TUSD, we believe every student deserves a chance to succeed. PBIS and Restorative Practices help us create schools where students feel valued, learn from mistakes, and build strong relationships. Together, we’re making our schools a place where everyone can thrive!

Questions? Contact our PBIS/Restorative Practices team at our school or Director of Student Services, Gil Ogden, at gogden@turlock.k12.ca.us

Courteous Treatment of Others

Students will treat each other and all individuals on campus with dignity, courtesy, and respect. Students will not exhibit unruly behavior and will not speak rudely or in a derogatory manner. Students will not interfere with the rights of others. Students should expect such treatment from both members of the staff and their fellow students.

Littering

Students are expected to assist in keeping the campus clean. Litter cans are located strategically around the campus to enable everyone to avoid littering.

Following Direction of Teachers

Students are expected to follow the directions of their teachers in class. The teachers are expected to provide effective instruction, but they cannot do this without the cooperation of their students. If a student has a complaint or concern about how a class is being conducted, he/she should meet with the teacher in private to discuss it. When in class students are expected to obey the instructions of the teacher. Persistent or flagrant misbehavior may result in suspension from school and a recommendation to Student Services for a change of placement. Also, if plagiarism occurs the student may be dropped from the course with an "F" grade.

Student ID's

To increase campus safety and security, all eCademy students are required to carry a student ID card in their pocket, purse, or backpack. **All eCademy students will use their ID card to sign in/out of campus.** All students shall carry their ID daily while on or about the school campus during school hours or at school activities. For safety purposes, all 7-12 grade TUSD students shall present their student ID card upon request by school staff. *If the card is lost, the student will be required to purchase a replacement card. The replacement cost is \$3.00 per card.*

Public Display of Affection

A school campus is not the place for obvious displays of physical affection between students. Public displays of affection will be considered inappropriate. Continued inappropriate contact may result in parent contact, detention, and possible suspension for defiance.

Personal Hygiene

For health and safety reasons, hair grooming is permitted in designated areas only (restrooms). Students are discouraged from sharing their combs and brushes with other individuals. For reasons of safety, electrical or butane appliances are not allowed. Eye make-up is not to be shared at school because of the possibility of eye infections. Aerosol cans (hair spray, deodorant, body spray) and glass containers of any kind are not allowed and will be confiscated.

Dress Regulations

In partnership with students and parents, the Turlock Unified School District administration, and staff requests review of students' attire to ensure it meets the following dress code guidelines before arriving at school:

Students MUST Wear:

- Top with straps.
- Bottom: pants, skirts, shorts, etc. covering buttocks (no micro minis or short shorts with entire thigh exposed)
- Shoes (no backless footwear for elementary students)
- **Secured** clothing that protects and covers personal body parts.

Students MAY Choose to Wear:

- Hats, including religious headwear.
- Hooded shirts/jackets (over the head is allowed)
- Teachers/staff may direct students to remove/adjust the position of hats/hoods over the head on campus in situations that include, but are not limited to, classroom activities, headphone/earbud use issues, or visual identification of a student's face. This does NOT apply to any headwear worn for religious reasons.

Students CANNOT Wear:

- Clothing that depicts violent language or images
- Clothing that includes, but is not limited to hats, shoes, headgear, belts, shirts, pants, piercings, key chain holders that are deemed a potential threat to student and/or staff safety.
- Clothing that illustrates images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity) or the use of same
- Clothing that displays hate speech, profanity, pornography
- Clothing that includes images or language that create a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class.
- Clothing that is sheer or see-through, (clothing must be opaque)
- Visible underwear, bralettes, bandeau tops, sports bras, or backless shirts
- Unsecured clothing that allows personal body parts to be visible with movement or contact
- Helmets, hoods, or other headgear that obscures a student's identity (except as a religious observance)
- For identification purposes, a student's face must be clearly visible, including when taking school photos; this may require removal of a hood and/or hat.

Examples of clothing deemed a potential threat to students and/or staff can be found on the TUSD website.

GRADING POLICY K-6

All K-6 report cards and assignment/assessment scores are reflective of assessments, observations, and work samples collected during the scheduled one-hour weekly meetings and monthly Science Labs. Speaking and listening standard grades are reflective of students' participation in SEL virtual offerings, in-class presentations, and Science Lab experiences. K-6 students are graded at the trimester.

<u>Achievement</u>	<u>Progress Toward Standard</u>	<u>Habits of Success</u>
3 Meets Standards	+ Standard Met	O Outstanding
2 Approaching Standards	- Standard Not Met	S Satisfactory
1 Limited Progress Toward Standards	NA Not Assessed at this time	N Needs Improvement
		U Unsatisfactory

GRADING POLICY 7-12

Class grades are determined by the individual teacher's grading criteria. Teachers explain these criteria to students at the beginning of the course. Students' participation contributes to their overall grade. Letter grades will reflect the following: (Refer to page 6 - Edgenuity Courses)

A	Excellent	F	Failure. No credit awarded.
B	Above Average	P *	Passing (* not computed into G.P.A.)
C	Satisfactory	W	Withdrawal – Failure
D	Passing, but not satisfactory	INC	Incomplete - later be replaced by final mark.

Report cards are mailed to parents after the close of each grading period for grades K-8. Report cards are available electronically at the end of each grading period for Grades 9-12. Parents will be notified via Parent Square when they can review student grades in Aeries. Grades recorded on a permanent transcript are those awarded at the end of each semester. Students and parents are entitled to be notified whenever it becomes evident that the student may fail. Normally, the student and parents are notified by the midpoint of a grading period, except in those situations where there is a sudden decline in a student's performance later than at midpoint. Any transcript review or revision must be requested in writing. The request will be reviewed by the teacher of record. Only the teacher is allowed to change a student's grade. Grades and transcripts will only be changed in the event of a grading error or circumstance beyond the control of the student, such as a medical exemption or emergency. Once a grading period has ended, no further work will be allowed to change a grade. Requests for grade changes will be submitted by the teacher of record to the principal or designee within four weeks of the new term for administrative approval.

JUNIOR HIGH PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

Credits

Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 1.5 in 7th and 8th grade to participate in promotion. Although credits are monitored and discussed with students for instructional purposes, they are not a determining factor in 8th grade promotion as they are for high school graduation.

Credits are awarded for passing grades at the end of each quarter.

7 th Grade	Poss. Credits per year	8 th Grade	Poss. Credits per year
Language Arts	20	Language Arts	20
Mathematics	20	Mathematics	20
Science	20	Science	20
History	20	History	20
PE	20	PE	20
Elective	20	Elective	20
Total:	120	Total:	120

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Required Subjects	Required Credits		
	eCAD	THS/PHS	RHS
ENGLISH	40	40	40
SCIENCE			
Physical Science	10	10	10
Life Science	10	10	10
MATH	20	20	20
(All students must pass a full year of Integrated Math I, or its equivalent, plus an additional math course.)			
SOCIAL SCIENCE			
World History (Grade 10)	10	10	10
United States History (Grade 11)	10	10	10
American Government (Grade 12)	5	5	5
Economics (Grade 12)	5	5	5
VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS/WORLD LANGUAGE/CTE	10	10	10
Visual Performing Arts/World Language			
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	20	20	20
21st CENTURY SKILLS (College/Career/Health) Sem. Courses	10	10	10
ELECTIVES	50	80	50
No more than 40 credits of elective courses may be satisfied by Work Experience			
TOTAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION	200	230	200

Courses cannot be used to meet requirements in more than one area.

Service-Learning Requirement:

Service Learning is a method by which young people learn and develop through active participation in a **thoughtfully organized service experience**...that meets actual community needs.

- That is coordinated in collaboration with the school and community.
- That is integrated into each young person's academic curriculum.
- That provides structured time for a young person to think, talk, and write about what he or she did and saw during the actual service activity.
- That provides young people with opportunities to use newly acquired academic skills and use knowledge in real life situations in their own communities.
- That helps foster the development of a sense of caring for others.
- That provides opportunities for school-to college or school-to-career transitions.

11th Grade: 5 hours of community service/Community Service Reflection

- Service-Learning Log
- Service-Learning Reflection Form
- This represents 5% of the 2nd semester grade. (AP classes may vary)

12th Grade: 10 hours of community service/ community service reflection

- Service-Learning Log
- Service-Learning Reflection Form
- This represents 5% of the 2nd semester grade. (AP classes may vary)

Please refer to **Board Policy 6142.4: Service Learning/Community Service Classes** for more information.

Graduation Commencement Ceremony

eCademy has a traditional commencement ceremony and students wear caps and gowns. To participate in the commencement ceremony, seniors must:

- Complete and pass all courses required for graduation by the senior due date.
- Return all books, materials, course logs, and pay any fines.
- All students are expected to participate in the graduation practice prior to the ceremony.

Graduation Attire

The Superintendent or designee may require graduating students to wear ceremonial attire, such as cap and gown, at the ceremony. Any graduating student who has completed basic training and is an active member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces may, at the student's option, wear a military dress uniform at the ceremony. (Education Code 35183.3) Students shall be permitted to wear tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment to the customary ceremonial attire, if the adornment does not cause a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the graduation ceremony. (Education Code 35183.1) Students are prohibited from personalizing commencement attire, including the decoration of caps and gowns or the addition of ornamental leis.

Disciplinary Considerations

Students are expected to comply with district and school policies, regulations, and rules throughout the school session, including during graduation and related events. Students shall not be denied the privilege of participating in graduation ceremonies and activities except as discipline in cases of serious misconduct. In no event shall a student be denied participation in graduation ceremonies unless the principal or designee has informed the student and the student's parents/guardians of the misconduct and has given them an opportunity to respond. During the graduation ceremony, a student may be removed from the ceremony for conduct that is disruptive or poses a risk to safety.

Other Graduation Options

Information is available for students interested in one of the two State Board authorized high school equivalency tests, these include the General Educational Development (GED®), and the High School Equivalency Test (HiSet®). Presentation of an official certificate received after passing one of these State-authorized tests should be considered equivalent to a high school diploma to obtain education or employment in California. Please visit www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/gd for more information.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

The admission requirements for colleges and universities vary from institution to institution. Also, the requirements for any given college or university will vary depending upon the major the student intends to pursue. Students should meet with their counselor to develop a plan for college/university admission.

Below are the general admission requirements for the following schools:

Community/Junior College – Students with a high school diploma (or the equivalent), or any person 18 years of age or older who can profit from instruction, is eligible to enroll in a Community/Junior College.

Freshmen College Admissions Subject Requirements*

Class	CSU	UC
English	4 years	4 years
Mathematics	3 years	3 years (4 recommended)
History/Social Science	2 years	2 years
Lab Science (Physical & Life)	2 years	2 years (3 recommended)
World Language (same Language)	2 years	2 years (3 recommended)
CP Elective	1 year	1 year
Visual and Performing Arts	1 year	1 year

*All courses listed above must be College Prep and students must earn a grade of “C” or better. eCademy currently meets the requirements for A-G acceptance to CSU and UC campuses. Repeating a course for grade improvement must be approved by the school administrator or designee. The original class and grade will remain on the transcript along with the repeated class and grade.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT AND MONITORING STUDENT PROGRESS

Students and parents/guardians must have a clear understanding of what it takes for students to succeed in an independent study/home school program. Parents/guardians and students must develop shared understanding and commitment. Student success in completing required homework assignments on time is the responsibility of the student and the parent. Students are responsible for completing the assignments at home in addition to studying sufficiently to pass each of the course assessments (quizzes/tests). Completed work will be reviewed at the Weekly Instruction Session appointment or class time. Refer to enrollment contract.

Stay Connected with Family Link, Parent Square, and Edgenuity

TUSD Family Link parent portal provides parents with access to their student academic information including grades and assignments as well as simple steps to update student data and approve annual authorizations online. Creating an account is as easy as providing your email address to your school office which will be followed by an email with the Family Link logon information. Your Family Link account automatically creates a parent square account where you can receive emails, see posts, texts, and other information regarding activities at eCademy. We encourage all parents to use Parent Square regularly to stay up to date with school events and information. For grades 7-12, eCademy Charter parents/guardians will also have access to view student progress and performance within the Edgenuity program. Parent/Guardian accounts will be created at your child's first appointment with their teacher. (Parents/guardians are required to attend the first appointment at the beginning of each semester with their child.) Edgenuity notifications are sent via email to parents/guardians. **Students and parents are asked to check their email at least twice per week for school notices and information (e.g. testing, activities, academic progress, etc.)**

Parent Expectations

- Ensure students attend all instructional sessions, completes schoolwork at acceptable levels, and complete all required tests.
- Provide transportation or walking permission for students to and from school.
- Monitor students' grades with Aeries Family Link and the Edgenuity Program
- Notify the office if you have changed your mailing address, home, or work telephone numbers.
- Support your students' desire to learn.
- Expect acceptable behavior from your child that includes self-control and accountability.
- Expect regular, on-time, attendance.
- Check your email at least twice a week

Academic Counseling

The school counselor supports students in various areas, including personal, social, and academic needs. Students can meet with the counselor to develop a college plan, review promotion and graduation requirements and receive assistance with any challenges they may face. This guidance helps ensure students are prepared for their future.

School Books, School Property & Transferring from eCademy

Each of our classes complies with Williams Act and Title IX guidelines. When a student checks out a book, they are responsible for that bar-coded book until it is returned to the school. All textbooks, Chromebooks and other school property must be returned before transferring to a new school. If property is lost or damaged, the parent/guardian must reimburse the cost of the property.

Unpaid Bills and Fines

California State Education Code, Section 48904 gives permission for "Any school district...whose real or personal property has been willfully cut, defaced or otherwise injured, or whose property is loaned to a pupil and willfully not returned upon demand of an employee of the district who is authorized to make demand, may after affording the pupil his or her due process rights, withhold such items as the grades, diploma and transcripts of the pupil responsible for the damage until the pupil or this pupil's parent or guardian has paid for the damages thereto"...not to exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,000.00).

Local Accountability Control Plan Committee

The eCademy Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) committee is composed of the principal, teachers, students, parents, and school staff. Community partners are invited to attend meetings whose role is to plan, monitor, and evaluate the school site expenditures and activities for specific programs operated at the school site to improve student achievement. Messages are sent to all community partners at the beginning of the year and prior to each scheduled meeting. Meeting notices can be found on the school website.

INTERNET, CHROMEBOOK, AND CELL PHONE POLICIES

Internet Usage

- Student and parent/guardian must sign a Technology Acceptable Use Agreement
- Chat room usage, as well as inappropriate websites, is not permitted.

Internet User Policies

The computers at eCademy provide access to the Internet and Google Suite. All school rules and regulations are in effect as well as, including, but not limited to, having a signed Internet Usage Form on file. The Internet Usage Form is signed electronically each year when completing data confirmation in Aeries. **BE AWARE THAT STUDENTS' COMPUTER ACTIVITY IS MONITORED.**

Chromebook Policy

Each student in grades TK-12 will receive a Chromebook for their personal use to complete classwork. The Chromebook is for STUDENT USE ONLY to complete assignments. Abuse of this privilege may result in termination of the right to have a TUSD Chromebook assigned to the student. Chromebooks are the property of the school where they are assigned. If a student leaves eCademy and enrolls at another school, within the district, the student must return to the Chromebook to eCademy and request another from the new school.

Cell Phone Policy

Grades TK-8: Students shall not use smartphones, smart watches, smart glasses (wearables) or any other mobile communication device upon arrival on campus at school and through dismissal.

Grades 9-12: Students may use smartphones or other mobile communication devices (smart watches) on campus during the lunch period only. Smart glasses (wearables) are not permitted at any time.

Recognizing parents' desire to monitor their students' location, students may have their devices turned on but must be on silent (no vibration) and stored in a backpack, bag, or purse (not on the person). In case of emergency or any other urgent need to communicate with children, parents are encouraged to contact the school office. Students needing to contact their parents for any reason shall seek permission from the administration office to make the call.

CELL PHONE POLICY	
Positive Behavior Interventions/Supports Provided at Each Step	
SECONDARY 9-12 (Annual Reset)	
STEP	Student Accountability
1	Warning
2	Confiscate device/student pick-up at the end of the day
3	Confiscate device/parent pick-up at the end of the day
4	Repeat of Step 3 or Other Means of Correction (OMC)

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

TUSD Concurrent Enrollment

TUSD Students may request to take a course at their resident comprehensive site. The respective high school site administrator, counselor, and/or teacher will assess and approve the student's enrollment based upon space availability and other factors.

NCAA Athletics

eCademy Charter meets all NCAA requirements for athletics.

Adult School

11th- and 12th-grade students who need to make up credits may enroll in Turlock Adult School while still attending eCademy Charter. To enroll, students should schedule an appointment with the eCademy Charter counselor and their parent. Classes are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to seniors. Enrollment is only allowed **during the first two weeks of each semester**. All students must follow Turlock Adult School's rules and regulations. Students who miss three or more days will be dropped from the program.

Summer School

eCademy Charter students may make-up credits by attending summer school offered by the Turlock Unified School District.

The SPACE

The Student Performance and Academic Center at eCademy (The SPACE), is a comfortable location for students to utilize during the school day on a walk-in basis. They may use the SPACE to complete work and receive support, as needed. The SPACE is open on school days from: 9:30 AM to 1:15 PM.

Work Permits

Work permits are required for students under the age of 18 to work. Students behind more than 10 credits may not be eligible for a Work Permit. Additionally, students must have earned a 2.0 GPA during the previous grading period. Students who are failing classes, who are not attending, or not completing minimum schoolwork **will have their work permits revoked.**

Career Planning

Many high school students think that career planning is something that begins once they have entered college. Career planning is a process that begins before high school and should continue into the college years. Career planning is an ongoing process that allows you to rethink and reevaluate yourself as you gain experience, grow, and develop. At the high school level, perhaps the best way of starting is to begin the process of self-exploration. Self-exploration allows you to think about:

- Your skills, abilities, and interests
- Personal preferences, training, education, and life experiences

Our school counselor is available to assist ALL students to:

- Take classes to learn about subjects, strengths, and interests. Learn to develop new skills through activities.
- Begin to explore career options. Talk to advisors, counselors, teachers, parents, and friends. Conduct research into careers that interest you.
- Find part-time jobs or voluntary experiences which allow you to try different career areas.

School Fundraising

Occasionally, students will be asked to participate in a school fundraiser. These fundraisers help to cover or defer the cost of school events such as ice cream socials, Back to School Night, Fall Family Night, Holiday Tree Lighting, Open House, and other fun events throughout the year for students and their families. We encourage you to participate in these fundraising opportunities to help us continue to provide these events for our school.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Student of the Month

Each Month, one student is recognized as the “Student of the Month”. Students are chosen in recognition of the TUSD Monthly Character Traits. Their picture may be seen in the school office.

Honor Roll 7-12

We are immensely proud of our students who achieve grades which place them in the top 20% of their class. Those students who earn a GPA of 3.0-3.49 receive the Silver Honor Roll award. Students who earn a GPA of 3.5 to 3.99 earn the Gold Honor Roll award. Students who earn a 4.0 GPA will earn the Principal’s Honor Roll. Grade 7-8 earn awards following the 2nd and 4th Quarters. Grades 9-12 earn awards following the 1st and 2nd Semesters. Parents and students will receive a letter of recognition.

Graduation Honors

Students with the following Total Weighted GPA* will earn the following academic recognition at graduation:

3.5-3.99 - Silver Cord

4.00 and above - Gold Cord

Academic Gold Medallion

Student with Highest Total Weighted GPA (includes PE and is cumulative grades 9-12)

*Qualifying students will be notified in May

CHILD NUTRITION

Meals will be offered to all students at no cost for SY 2026-2027. Lunch applications are no longer required to participate in the meal program. However, TUSD will request that parents complete TUSD Household Family Survey which provides important information to our district in planning student services and programs. Students who wish to purchase extra items such as milk or bottled water (where applicable) will need to create an online payment account with MySchoolBucks. Parents can make payments to their child's meal account 24/7, 365 days a year, view cafeteria purchases, track meal account balances, set up low-balance email reminders, and schedule recurring payments all online! Visit www.myschoolbucks.com to create an account today. All students who wish to purchase milk are encouraged to take a reimbursable meal, which includes milk, entree, and/or fruit/vegetable, at no cost. To qualify for SUNBUCKS benefits, parents are encouraged to complete the Universal Benefits Application, which helps determine eligibility for additional support programs; in California, SUNBUCKS provides eligible families with additional funds to support student meals.

Food Policy

On the recommendation of the Stanislaus County Health Department, all foods provided for classroom parties and celebrations must be commercially prepared and purchased from a licensed retail store or bakery. No home baked or homemade foods will be allowed. The Turlock Unified School District (TUSD) is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect children's health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating. TUSD adopted a "Wellness Policy" that supports healthy choices for all students. In alignment with the District's Wellness Policy and federal and state regulations, all foods and beverages provided to students outside of the reimbursable school meal program during the school day must meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards established by the USDA and implemented by the California Department of Education.

Smart Snack Standards require food:

- Meet specific limits on calories, fat, sugar, and sodium
- Be whole grain-rich, or have a fruit, vegetable, dairy, or protein food as the first ingredient
- Portion sizes based on grade level

All foods must be properly packaged and labeled with a Nutrition Facts panel or ingredient statement to verify compliance. All fundraisers conducted during the school day must also comply with Smart Snacks nutrition standards and the District Wellness Policy. TUSD strongly encourages healthy choices for celebrations and class parties.

RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

Fair Hearing Before Discipline

Students have a right to a fair hearing before any disciplinary action can be taken. This means that, before a student can be suspended (except in an emergency); he/she is entitled to at least an informal meeting with an administrator to hear the evidence against the student and to have a chance to explain his/her side of the story. The student can also appeal to the decision of the administrator as will be explained in the following section.

Complaints and Appeals

Students and their parents are entitled to make complaints against any member of the school staff and to appeal against the decisions made by members of the staff. Complaints can also be made against administrators or other district employees. The appropriate procedure, if a student feels the need to make a complaint, is to first request to meet with that person in private. Most complaints are the result of a misunderstanding and can usually be resolved by the two people meeting privately to discuss the problem. If such a meeting fails to resolve the problem, the student may wish to bring it to the attention of the principal in a written letter detailing the reasons behind the filing of the complaint. If the student is dissatisfied with the administrator's response, he/she may request a meeting with the Superintendent or his designee and eventually the Board of Education.

In cases of discipline, such as suspensions or involuntary transfers to continuation school, the students and his/her parents may appeal directly to the Director of Student Services. Students who are suspended or transferred involuntarily are always informed in writing of how to make such appeals.

Students or parents can appeal a grade for a class, but no one can order a teacher to change a grade unless it is proven that either incompetence or miscalculation caused an error. When making complaints it is also recommended that the student wait until he/she meets with the teacher or administrator in private rather than sounding off in front of others about his/her intention to make a complaint. It can be embarrassing to announce in public that a student had been wronged and then later realized that the student was mistaken. If a student has a complaint, he/she should request to meet in private with that teacher or administrator to discuss it. He/she may also consult with the counselor before meeting with the teacher or administrator. The student's counselor will participate with the student in the meeting if so wished. Whatever the complaint, however, the student should make it only through the appropriate channels described above. The students and their parents could be sued for libel or slander if they wrongfully accuse school district employees outside of these channels.

CONDUCT CODE AND ATTENDANCE

School Safety

- To ensure a safe and secure school campus, all students are required to be in their seat at the final attendance bell.
- Students that are not in their assigned locations on campus and/or loitering about the campus are engaging in unsafe behavior which jeopardizes the safety of all members of the campus community.

Students that fail to respond to multiple interventions and supports, **MAY** be suspended pending a parent conference and restorative conversation.

Discipline Philosophy

The purpose of school discipline is to ensure that our school is a safe environment and to make learning attainable. The staff at eCademy Charter are here to provide the finest education possible. eCademy has a clear set of student expectations to help maintain a safe and orderly campus that is conducive to learning. Establishing and maintaining a safe and secure campus is a priority for everyone. Physical violence will not be tolerated. Possession, use, and/or furnishing of any controlled substance, or intoxicant of any kind will not be tolerated. Any student who has possessed, used, and/or furnished a controlled substance or intoxicant of any kind may be recommended for expulsion. eCademy Charter reserves the right to “drop” a student from the program at any time.

Plagiarism/Cheating Philosophy

Per the agreement via Edgenuity and school policy, students are expected to submit their own work for all assignments. All work must be your own or properly cited.

Plagiarism Outcome Steps:

1. Plagiarized work will receive a “0” (zero) with no opportunity to resubmit.
2. You will receive a “0” (zero) for the assignment and the teacher will notify the parent/guardian.
3. You will receive a “0” (zero) for the assignment and the teacher will notify the principal and the principal will hold a parent/student conference.

Attendance Philosophy

Per the written agreement, signed at the beginning of each school year or enrollment, students must attend their scheduled appointment day, and on time, to ensure student success. Missed appointments, and/or constant rescheduled appointments, will result in a conference with the student and/or parent to help resolve the situation. If the issue continues, a conference with the principal will be held to review placement. Refer to the Parent/Student Contract.

DISCIPLINE MATRIX

Below is a brief description of eCademy discipline consequences. Please refer to the TUSD web site, the “*Annual Parent Notification of Rights*”, and the Notice of Regulations included in this document for further information.

All students are expected to follow TUSD campus rules and regulations.

Violation of Conduct Code

Progressive Discipline Matrix: Grades 7-12

Step	Consequence
1	Student Warning
2	Parent Contact
3	Parent Conference and possible suspension and/or removal from Program

NOTE: eCademy reserves the right to remove a student from the program at any time.

Notice of Regulations

At the beginning of each school year, the principal of each school shall ensure that all students and parents/guardians are notified in writing of all school rules related to discipline, including suspension and expulsion. (Education Code 35291, 48900.1, 48980)

Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12

Acts for which a student, including a student with disabilities, may be suspended, or expelled shall be only those specified as follows and, in the sections, "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12" and "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12" below:

1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person; willfully used force or violence upon another person, except in self-defense; or committed as an aider or abettor, as adjudged by a juvenile court, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great or serious bodily injury (Education Code 48900(a) and (t))
2. Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student has obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the principal or designee's concurrence (Education Code 48900(b))
3. Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind (Education Code 48900(c))
4. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented same as such controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant (Education Code 48900(d))
5. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion (Education Code 48900(e))
6. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property (Education Code 48900(f))
7. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property (Education Code 48900(g))
8. Possessed or used tobacco or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel, except that this restriction shall not prohibit a student from using or possessing prescription products (Education Code 48900(h)) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity (Education Code 48900(i))
9. Unlawfully possessed, offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code 11014.5 (Education Code 48900(j))
10. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property (Education Code 48900(l))

11. Possessed an imitation firearm* (Education Code 48900(m))

* Imitation firearm means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm. (Education Code 48900(m))

12. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code 243.4 (Education Code 48900(n))
13. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness (Education Code 48900(o))
14. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma (Education Code 48900(p))
15. Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing* (Education Code 48900(q))

* Hazing means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or body, whether the organization or body or not is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective student. Hazing does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events. (Education Code 48900(q))

16. Engaged in an act of bullying* (Education Code 48900(r))

* Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, directed toward one or more students that has or can reasonably be predicted to have the effect of placing a reasonable student in fear of harm to self or property; cause the student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on physical or mental health; or cause the student to experience substantial interferences with academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school. (Education Code 48900(r))

Bullying includes any act of sexual harassment, hate violence, or harassment, threat, or intimidation, as defined in Education Code 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4 and below in the section "Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12," that has any of the effects described above on a reasonable student.

Bullying also includes an act of cyber sexual bullying by a student through the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording that depicts a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of an identifiable minor, when such dissemination is to another student or to school personnel by means of an electronic act and has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects of bullying described above. Cyber sexual bullying does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.

Electronic act means the creation or transmission originated on or off the school site by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication including, but not limited to: (Education Code 48900(r))

a. Message, text, sound, video, or image

b. A post on a social network Internet web site, including, but not limited to, posting to, or creating a burn page or creating a credible impersonation or false profile for the purpose of causing a reasonable student any of the effects of bullying described above. Reasonable student means a student, including, but not limited to, a student who has been identified as a student with a disability, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of the student's age, or for a person of the student's age and disability. (Education Code 48900(r))

17. Aided or abetted the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury on another person, as defined in Penal Code 31 (Education Code 48900(t))
18. Made terrorist threats* against school officials and/or school property (Education Code 48900.7)

* A terrorist threat includes any written or oral statement by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or property damage more than \$1,000, with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of carrying it out. (Education Code 48900.7)

Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 4-12

A student in grades 4-12 shall be subject to suspension or recommendation for expulsion when it is determined that the student:

1. Committed sexual harassment as defined in Education Code 212.5 (Education Code 48900.2)
2. Sexual harassment means conduct which, when considered from the perspective of a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim, is sufficiently severe or pervasive as to have a negative impact upon the victim's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. (Education Code 212.5, 48900.2)
3. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence* as defined in Education Code 233 (Education Code 48900.3)
4. Hate violence means any act punishable under Penal Code 422.6, 422.7, or 422.75. Such acts include injuring or intimidating a victim, interfering with the exercise of a victim's civil rights, or damaging a victim's property because of the victim's race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation; a perception of the presence of any of those characteristics in the victim; or the victim's association with a person or group with one or more of those actual or perceived characteristics. (Education Code 233; Penal Code 422.55)
5. Intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation against district personnel or students that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of school personnel or students by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment (Education Code 48900.4)

Additional Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades 9-12

Any student in grades 9-12 may be suspended, but not expelled, for disrupting school activities or otherwise willfully defying the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties. (Education Code 48900(k))

Suspension by Superintendent, Principal or Principal's Designee

The Superintendent, principal, or designee shall immediately suspend any student found at school or at a school activity committing any of the acts listed in the Board policy under "Authority to Expel" for which a recommendation of expulsion is required. (Education Code 48915(c))

The Superintendent, principal, or designee may impose a suspension for a first offense if it is determined that the student violated any of items #1-5 listed under "Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion: Grades K-12" above or if the student's presence causes a danger to people. (Education Code 48900.5)

For all other offenses, a student may be suspended only when the Superintendent or principal has determined that other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. (Education Code 48900.5)

When other means of correction are implemented prior to imposing suspension or supervised suspension upon a student, the Superintendent, principal, or designee shall document the other means of correction used and retain the documentation in the student's record. (Education Code 48900.5)

Length of Suspension

The Superintendent, principal, or designee may suspend a student from school for not more than five consecutive school days. (Education Code 48911)

A student may be suspended from school for not more than 20 school days in any school year. However, if a student enrolls in or is transferred to another regular school, an opportunity school, or continuation school or class for the purpose of adjustment, the student may be suspended for not more than 30 school days in a school year. The district may count suspensions that occur while a student is enrolled in another school district toward the maximum number of days for which the student may be suspended in any school year. (Education Code 48903, 48911, 48912)

These restrictions on the number of days of suspension shall not apply when the suspension is extended pending an expulsion. (Education Code 48911)

Due Process Procedures for Suspension

Suspensions shall be imposed in accordance with the following procedures:

1. **Informal Conference:** Suspension shall be preceded by an informal conference conducted by the Superintendent, principal, or designee with the student and, whenever practicable, the teacher, supervisor, or school employee who referred the student to the principal. At the conference, the students shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action, including the other means of correction that were attempted before the suspension as required pursuant to Education Code 48900.5, and the evidence against the student, and shall be given the opportunity to present the student's version and evidence. (Education Code 48911)

This conference may be omitted if the Superintendent, principal, or designee determines that an emergency exists involving a clear and present danger to the lives, safety, or health of students or school personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, both the parent/guardian and student shall be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of the conference and the conference shall be held within two school days, unless the student waives the right to it or is physically unable to attend for any reason. In such a case, the conference shall be held as soon as the student is physically able to return to school. (Education Code 48911)

2. **Administrative Actions:** All requests for student suspension are to be processed by the principal or designee. A school employee shall report the suspension, including the name of the student and the cause for the suspension, to the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 48911)
3. **Notice to Parents/Guardians:** At the time of the suspension, a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian by telephone or in person. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall also be notified in writing of the suspension. (Education Code 48911)

This notice shall state the specific offense committed by the student. (Education Code 48900.8) In addition, the notice may state the date and time when the student may return to school.

4. **Parent/Guardian Conference:** Whenever a student is suspended, school officials may request a meeting with the parent/guardian to discuss the cause(s) and duration of the suspension, the school policy involved, and any other pertinent matter. (Education Code 48914)

If school officials request to meet with the parent/guardian, the notice may state that the law requires the parent/guardian to respond to such requests without delay. However, no penalties may be imposed on the student for the failure of the parent/guardian to attend such a conference. The student may not be denied reinstatement solely because the parent/guardian failed to attend the conference. (Education Code 48911)

5. **Extension of Suspension:** If the Board is considering the expulsion of a suspended student from any school or the suspension of a student for the balance of the semester from continuation school, the Superintendent or designee may, in writing, extend the suspension until such time as the Board has decided, provided the following requirements are followed: (Education Code 48911)
 - a. The extension of the original period of suspension is preceded by notice of such extension with an offer to hold a conference concerning the extension, giving the student an opportunity to be heard. This conference may be held in conjunction with a meeting requested by the student or parent/guardian to challenge the original suspension.

- b. The Superintendent or designee determines, following a meeting in which the student and the student's parent/guardian were invited to participate, that the student's presence at the school or at an alternative school would endanger persons or property or threaten to disrupt the instructional process. (Education Code 48911)
- c. If the student involved is a foster youth, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the district liaison for foster youth of the need to invite the student's attorney and a representative of the appropriate county child welfare agency to attend the meeting. (Education Code 48853.5, 48911, 48918.1)
- d. If the student involved is a homeless child or youth, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the district liaison for homeless students. (Education Code 48918.1)

In lieu of or in addition to suspending a student, the Superintendent, principal, or designee may provide services or require the student to participate in an alternative disciplinary program designed to correct the behavior and keep the student in school.

On-Campus Suspension

A student for whom an expulsion action has not been initiated and who poses no imminent danger or threat to the school, students, or staff may be assigned to on-campus suspension in a separate classroom, building, or site for the entire period of suspension. The following conditions shall apply: (Education Code 48911.1)

1. The on-campus suspension classroom shall be staffed in accordance with law.
2. The student shall have access to appropriate counseling services.
3. The on-campus suspension classroom shall promote completion of schoolwork and tests missed by the student during the suspension.
4. The student shall be responsible for contacting the student's teacher(s) to receive assignments to be completed in the supervised suspension classroom. The teacher(s) shall provide all assignments and tests that the student will miss while suspended. If no such work is assigned, the person supervising the suspension classroom shall assign schoolwork.

At the time a student is assigned to an on-campus suspension classroom, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian in person or by telephone. When the assignment is for longer than one class period, this notification may be made in writing. (Education Code 48911.1)

SEXUAL HARASSMENT (BP 5145.7[a])

The Governing Board is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits, at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities, sexual harassment targeted at any student by anyone. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint, or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment.

Title IX Coordinator
Director of Student Services
1574 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, CA 95380
(350) 206-3900 Ext. 62021

Reporting Complaints

A student or parent/guardian who believes that the student has been subjected to sexual harassment by another student, an employee, or a third party or who has witnessed sexual harassment is strongly encouraged to report the incident to a teacher, the principal, the district's Title IX Coordinator, or any other available school employee. Within one school day of receiving such a report, the principal or other school employee shall forward the report to the district's Title IX Coordinator. Any school employee who observes an incident of sexual harassment involving a student shall, within one school day, report the observation to the Principal or Title IX Coordinator. The report shall be made regardless of whether the alleged victim files a formal complaint or requests confidentiality.

When a report or complaint of sexual harassment involves off-campus conduct, the Title IX Coordinator shall assess whether the conduct may create or contribute to the creation of a hostile school environment. If the Title IX Coordinator determines that a hostile environment may be created, the complaint shall be investigated and resolved in the same manner as if the prohibited conduct occurred at school.

When a verbal or informal report of sexual harassment is submitted, the Title IX Coordinator shall inform the student or parent/guardian of the right to file a formal written complaint in accordance with applicable district complaint procedures.

Supportive Measures

Upon receipt of a report of Title IX sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures and shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to the supportive measures implemented. Supportive measures should be offered as appropriately, as reasonably available, and without charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. Such measures shall be non-disciplinary, nonpunitive, and designed to restore or preserve equal access to the district's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the district's educational environment or to deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to, counseling, course-related adjustments, modifications of class schedules, mutual restrictions on contact, increased security, and monitoring of certain areas of the campus. (34 CFR 106.30, 106.44)

The district shall maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the district's ability to provide supportive measures. (34 CFR 106.30)

Emergency Removal from School

A student shall not be disciplined for alleged sexual harassment under Title IX until the investigation has been completed. However, on an emergency basis, the district may remove a student from the district's education program or activity, provided that the district conducts an individualized safety and risk analysis, determines that removal is justified due to an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations, and provides the student with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal. This authority to remove a student does not modify a student's rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. (34 CFR 106.44)

SCHOOL WIDE LEARNER GOALS

CRANES...

- ☑ **C**ommit to assigned course work and attend school regularly.
- ☑ **R**espect for self, others, and the educational process.
- ☑ **A**cquire critical thinking, technology, & communication skills.
- ☑ **N**etwork in and outside the community.
- ☑ **E**stablish a strong work ethic and civility.
- ☑ **S**oar into the future college & career ready.